

February 2, 1973

In fact there has been discussion there have been proposals made nationally, to totally revamp and simplify the entire registration process. I point out for instance that every individual is charged with filing his own tax returns, you sign your own names to it and you mail it in. There has been discussion that has gone as far as to suggest that we have the mail in type registration. Now I'm not proposing that sort of thing today, I'm aware of many of the mechanical problems and they're far from being worked out, but within the present system that we have today, I think it is a crime to eliminate people for the reasons that now exist, and it seems to me it would be a proper, a proper action for us to do, to recognize that the right to vote must be preserved and we must do everything we can to simplify it, and to allow as many people as possible to vote. Therefore, this bill strikes me as necessary and important for passage.

SPEAKER: The Chair next recognizes Senator Syas, and then Senator Nore, then Senator Whitney, then Senator Stromer.

SENATOR SYAS: Well Mr. President, of course our committee heard this bill, and if the county clerks in the state were so uptight against this bill, the committee would never know it because if you notice in my committee report I told you the whole story of who appeared for and against the bill, which I always do, and that's the way I wish other Chairmen would do also, it's very helpful. Now I bleed for these county clerks, I really do. I ask the question during the hearing, their overworked, I guess everyone of them is overworked, but some maybe, but it seems to me that what actually happens is that the county in some of these counties they do not appropriate the necessary money to hire a secretary for the county clerk, because it cost, of course it costs money, and so consequently they do not want to use the mailing system, that Douglas county uses, Senator Duis referred to when he sent out his campaign literature, to find out if the guy still lives there or not. Now the mailing system I think is quite effective of finding out if your books are up to date, but they don't want to do that because it costs money, now I pose the question in this way, what is more important to spend money on, then the election lists of your county, the election, the people and whether they have the right to vote or not, and are properly registered, I think is fundamental and probably the most important thing the Government can do, and yet to avoid the 8¢ stamp, or I guess its less than that, if you do it on a card, the county, some of the counties do not desire to send out, and see if you're still registered, see if the card is returned or not, and I think that is a method of course in Douglas county that we use quite a bit, and I think that is the way to legally purger your lists, because a person may live in a place but not vote, and may still live there and be registered, but Uncle Sam for the most part, if the card isn't returned, if the card is returned that fellow just doesn't live there anymore, and then challenge him at the polls to whether he is a resident or not. Thank you.

SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes Senator Nore, then Whitney, then Duis, Stromer, excuse me.

SENATOR NORE: Mr. President, I rise to point of privilege if I could ask Senator Anderson a question if he would yield?

SPEAKER: Senator Anderson will you yield to a question?

SENATOR ANDERSON: Yes.

SENATOR NORE: Is there some system whereby when a deceased person, not a de-, a mortician makes a report to the election

(End of Belt #3)